

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter recited in claims 4, 12 and 13. To that end, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 4. The remaining claims have been cancelled. New claims 14 and 15 have been introduced which include the features of 12 and 13, respectively, as well as claim 1, from which claims 12 and 13 depended. As result, Applicants respectfully contend that the claims define an invention suitable for patent protection.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view the foregoing amendments and remarks. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to : MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1459.

Signed: Kenneth C. Brooks  
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Date: 10/2/04

Respectfully submitted,

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